The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

December 2015 **Volume 11, Issue 11** **© 2015 Radio Club of Tacoma**

Thanks Larry KD4VOM for your many years of service to the Radio Club of Tacoma. Your commitment to excellence and hard work during your tenure as Secretary have been appreciated beyond words.

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Board of Directors Meeting
4 November 2015 Minutes

The Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Treasurer	
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board Member	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO

There were 11 names on the attendance roster a copy of which is attached to the original minutes

Quorum: Yes

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President Gary McAdams WG7X.

Minutes:

The minutes of the October 2015 Board Meeting as distributed and coordinated, were approved without objection or correction.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: None Reported

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Bank Statements
Utility and Phone Bills
Newsletters
Memberships
Contest Journal
Experimenters Journal
Electric Radio
QSL Cards

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ:
Mike sought board approval for reimbursement to Doug Oakman AD7AV in the amount of $ 29.00 incurred over the Library Budget for 2015.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to reimburse AD7AV in the amount of $ 29.00.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership:

George K7GRS reported membership stands at 322.

Training: The next Technician's Class 7/8 November

Information Technology: – Randy Myers WB4SBP

Clubhouse IT system is nominal, no hardware issues and routine updates and maintenance work is current.

HF Operations: Operational

Repeaters:

Larry KD4VOM reports continued successful use of the Crawford Mountain repeater to support ARES and the Roy Area Net Friday Nets.

Repeater Status:

W7DK 145.21 Repeater, Bates Channel 28: -- Operational

W7DK 147.28 Repeater Clubhouse: Status –- Operational

W7DK 147.38 Repeater Crawford Mountain: Status – Operational, *awaiting installation of the 440 MHz control unit*

Tim has the new antenna for the Crawford Mountain repeater

W7DK 440.625 Repeater Clubhouse Status – Operational

IRLP 147.28 Repeater) Operational

Facilities Management:

Garage Exterior: Painting dependent on weather conditions.

RCT Club Tower: Al N7OMS raised the issue of the condition of the Club's tower and suggested we should engage a professional evaluation.

Rich Patrick KR7W Provided more information based on his observations and urged the club to get a professional inspection.

A motion was made, seconded amended and passed to authorize up to $1,000.00 to get a professional tower inspection.

Property Management:

Mike W7MWF: Mike noted that SK John Craig KB7OMU's estate gear is in the process of inspection and inventory. There are several valuable items in the donation.
Mike expects a disposition list to be presented for board approval by the end of the year.
Property Management has received invitation and application forms for the Club's Hamfest table at Mike and Key.
Mike W7XTZ asked the Property Management team for some Club Meeting Raffle items.

There was a discussion about reviewing the equipment insurance property listing to make sure its accurate and current..

General Membership Meeting Program: The November 11th program will be on the Winlink RMS digital system provided by Larry KD4VOM

Workshop Project:

November Workshop topic pending

Museum: **Rich KR7W** No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bylaws Amendment

In the Mail

Election

The President appointed the following to the Election Committee

John Clarke AC7WW
Gary McAdams WG7X
Leonard Burstiner KA7NWF

Annual Awards Banquet

Reservations have been made by Dave W7UUU and Anne N7ANN at the Scottish Rite Temple 817 S Vassault St, Tacoma, WA 98465

The Banquet will be held from 2 pm to 7pm

Provide names of folks to be recognized to Larry KD4VOM at royretreat@mailcan.co

Mike Finnie W7MWF was appointed to head up the Doc Spike award committee.

Larry KD4VOM will arrange for the $200 HRO banquet grand prize, and Gary WG7X will arrange for the gift card door prizes.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ATTABOYS:

The meeting was adjourned at 19:32

General Membership Meeting
11 November2015 Meeting Notes

The General Membership meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma Clubhouse at 1249 South Washington Street, Tacoma, WA.

President Gary WG7X called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President	Gary McAdams WG7X
Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board	Bruce Hanson W7EP

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 20 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by President Gary WG7X

INTRODUCTIONS: Welcoming of guests and self-introductions were completed.

Several new visitors were welcomed, and new calls acknowledged

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: None reported

Correspondence:

Newsletters
Utility Bills
Membership Renewals
Newsletters and Journals
QEX, NCJ, Electric Radio
Election ballots
Club Insurance Renewals

This meeting was relocated because the Pierce County Library Administration Building was close for the Veterans Day holiday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE Reports: John Clarke AC7WW

Friday October 30th three VE'; s tested two candidates. We graded four exams with two being passed. Two Technician Class amateurs joined the Amateur Service. Thanks to Michael W7XH and Gary K7EK for their time and effort.

We had a large group of candidates at the clubhouse on Tuesday November 10, 2015. Eight Volunteer Examiners graded 39 exams from 21 candidates with 19 passed. The Amateur Service gained 15 new Technicians, three candidates upgraded to General and one candidate upgraded to Extra. Two candidates failed to obtain an initial license.

Thanks to the following VEs for their time and effort.

Jan K7HTU	Rich KK7VH
Bob, KE7WPK	Stephen, AD7AB
John, AD7AW	Mike, W7XH
Gary, K7EK	

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday, December 8th 2015

Treasurer:

The Club continues to search for someone to take up the Club Treasurers Position. A familiarity with computers, bookkeeping experience and how to balance a bank statement is desirable

Membership: Last reported at 325

Training: Next Technicians Class will be in February.

HF Station: Operational

Repeaters: Operational

Facilities:

The Garage painting project is on standby pending permissible weather conditions.

W7DK
Radio Club of Tacoma
Proudly celebrating 99 years
of Amateur Radio Service to
Pierce County and the Pacific Northwest

Property Management: Mike Finnie W7MWF reviewed recent donations and plans.

The E-Bay process is under review and expected to begin late this year or early next year.

Workshops: Pending

ELECTION –

The appointed Election Ballot Counting Committee

John Clarke AC7WW
George Salisbury K7GRS
Leonard Burstiner KA7NWF

Retired and counted the Officers and Directors Election Ballots

Leonard KA7NWF reported the results as follows

There were 95 Ballots counted

The following officers were elected for two year terms beginning 1 January 2016 were:

Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board: Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board: Bob Jamison KE7WPK
Board: Paul Matney: W7PFU

PROGRAM: WINLINK 2000 (WL2K) Radio Messaging System Express (RMS) Presented by Larry KD4VOM

This presentation was created by Rick Frost K4REF in support of the Winlink 2000 nonprofit project. The video presents an overview of the Winlink RMS system, how it works and the modes and radio frequencies it uses.

More information can be found at: http://www.winlink.org

Winlink, also known as the **Winlink 2000 Network**, is a worldwide radio messaging system that mixes internet technology and appropriate amateur radio frequency (RF) technologies. The system provides radio interconnection services including: email with attachments, position reporting, graphic and text weather bulletins, emergency relief communications, and message relay. The system is built and administered by volunteers without pecuniary interests. Winlink 2000 is a project of the Amateur Radio Safety Foundation, Inc. (ARSFI), a charitable entity and 501c(3 non-profit organization registered with the US Internal Revenue Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RCT ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET:

Dave W7UUU and Anne N7ANN have arranged for reservations at the Tacoma Scottish Rite Temple on 6 December. We will be setting up around 2pm, and running from around 3pm to 5 pm.

817 S Vassault St, Tacoma, WA 98465

The Club will provide a couple of roasted turkeys, coffee and refreshments.

The Club also provides multiple door prizes and the Grand Prize a sizeable deposit account at HRO.

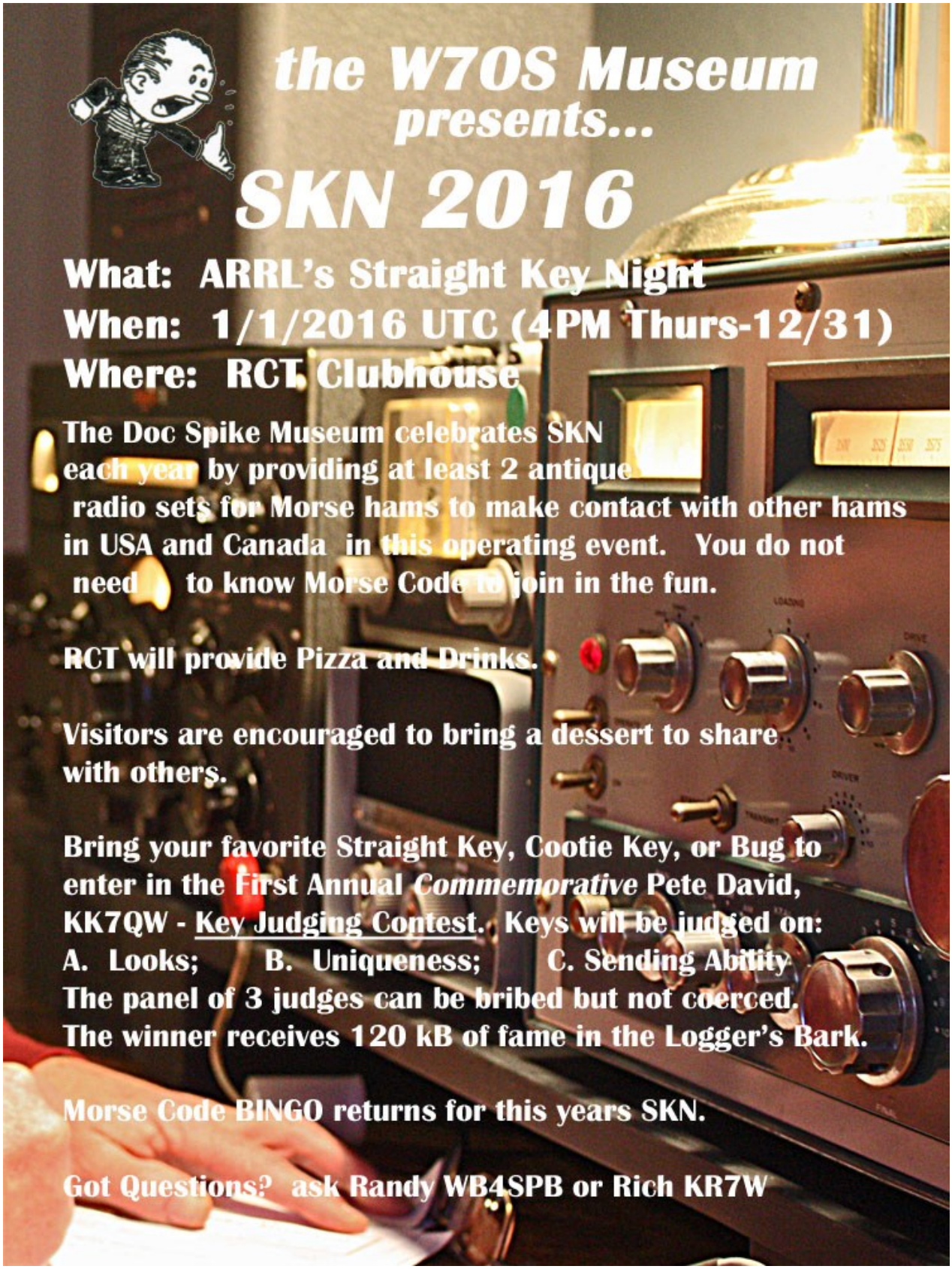
STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

One of the highlights of the winter season is the New Year's Eve Straight Key Night held at the Clubhouse. Both an operating and social event with food and snacks, come join us for an enjoyable New Year's Eve.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

None appeared

Meeting Adjourned.


the W7OS Museum
presents...
SKN 2016
What: ARRL's Straight Key Night
When: 1/1/2016 UTC (4PM Thurs-12/31)
Where: RCT Clubhouse
The Doc Spike Museum celebrates SKN each year by providing at least 2 antique radio sets for Morse hams to make contact with other hams in USA and Canada in this operating event. You do not need to know Morse Code to join in the fun.
RCT will provide Pizza and Drinks.
Visitors are encouraged to bring a dessert to share with others.
Bring your favorite Straight Key, Cootie Key, or Bug to enter in the First Annual Commemorative Pete David, KK7QW - Key Judging Contest. Keys will be judged on:
A. Looks; B. Uniqueness; C. Sending Ability
The panel of 3 judges can be bribed but not coerced.
The winner receives 120 kB of fame in the Logger's Bark.
Morse Code BINGO returns for this years SKN.
Got Questions? ask Randy WB4SPB or Rich KR7W

Straight Key Night… 2016

dah dit dah dit dah — by KR7W

Straight **K**ey **N**ight– for new members– is an ARRL operating event that encourages amateur operators to get out their mechanical telegraph keys and get on the air using Morse Code– like in the earlier years of ham radio when "The Code" at a high speed was required to obtain a license.

Straight Keys, Cootie Keys, and Bugs are keys that do not rely on electronic helper gizmos– such as iambic keyers– to create Morse code characters. The ARRL SKN event runs from Jan 1, 0000 UTC to Jan 2,

AD7AV at the SKN Key

0000 UTC. For us in the Pacific Time Zone– this is 4 PM on Dec 31.

Each year for as long I've been a Radio Club member (and probably many years before that) The W7OS Doc Spike Museum opens up the Club House on New Years Eve for SKN. The Museum hooks up two Vintage "Ham Radio Sets" for Morse Operators to get on the air just like back in the Novice License days. Also, the fairly new Icom Rig in the Lou Room will be available for operators who are more comfortable with modern equipment.

Upstairs in the Club House– The Museum room will be sporting the Heathkit Apache paired with the Collins 75A4 receiver operating on 80 Meters.

In the HF room a newcomer transmitter will be making its debut: A Harvey Wells TBS-50A paired with last years recently restored Military Collins R-388– on 40 Meters.

This year the Museum Regulars are hosting the Peter David KK7QW Commemorative **Key Judging Contest**. This contest, named in honor of KK7QW– a Morse Code aficionado and former RCT member– invites members and their guests to bring their favorite Straight Key, Cootie, or Bug to be judged by the Museum Regulars on the qualities of Appearance, Feel, and Sending Ability. Code Practice Oscillators will be set up around the CH. The winner receives 150 KB of fame in the club newsletter.

Important note: Attendees of the W7OS SKN event need not know Morse Code to participate in the fun. RCT is providing Pizza and Drinks for members and their guests. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dessert to share with others. This year the Pizzas will be ready earlier– at 5:30 PM.

But Wait!! There's More: Back by popular demand is **Morse Code Bingo**– where the numbers are called out in Morse code at 7 words per minute– slow enough to use a cheat sheet. Prizes to be donated by RCT President Gary (or maybe not).

What: W7OS Straight Key Night Celebration with QSOs, Key Judging, Bingo, and food.
When: Dec 31 from 4PM to 9PM
Who: RCT members and their guests

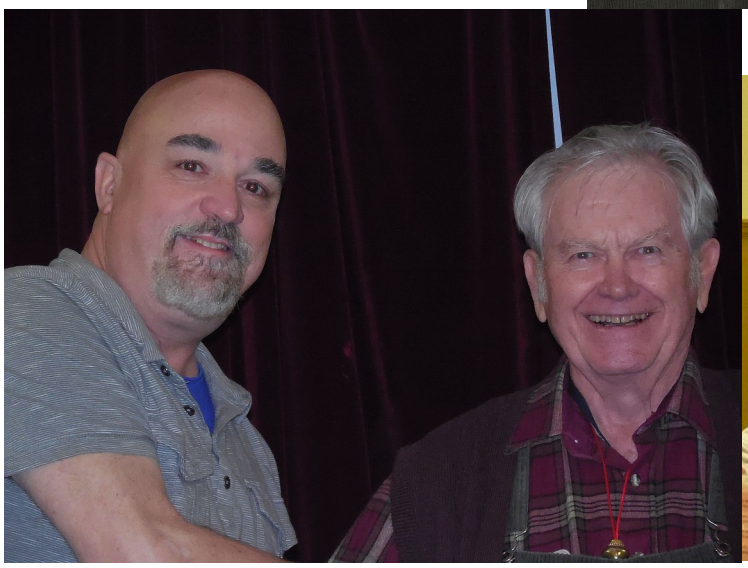
Got Questions? Ask Rich KR7W
599kr7w@gmail.com

2015 Awards Banquet - A Photo Essay

Photos courtesy KD4VOM and W7MWF

Certificate of Recognition

Certificate of Recognition



ARRL Kids Day - Coming to W7DK on January 3, 2015

Submitted by Mike Isakson W7XH

The Radio Club of Tacoma will kick off its 100th year with its first ever Kids Day on January 3rd 2016. Kid's Day, an official ARRL sponsored event, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jim Pallwitz W7ZND has been working with Life Center Academy students, teachers and administration to promote the event. He has also approached home school groups to provide an opportunity for families to learn about Ham Radio. An invitation has also been extended to a group of Cub Scouts.

We are excited to have this opportunity to share several aspects of ham radio with the kids. We have several volunteers helping to operate an HF station in both voice and digital modes, and we plan to use the 147.28 repeater both for local contacts as well as ILRP. Hopefully, the Club will also be able to field one or more CW stations.

With luck, hard work, and reasonable propagation, every student will make several contacts. We are encouraging our members to drop by the Clubhouse on Sunday the 3rd of January to lend a helping hand and to also man their radios at home to help insure a successful Kids Day event.

We are printing W7DK 100th year Kids Day QSL cards for the kids to mail out. Of course we hope that this event will bring in some new techs in the near future. If you would like to help out at the Clubhouse please contact Mike Isakson W7XH at jjm1215@outlook.com.

NOTICES OF OFFICIAL EVENTS

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Straight Key Night, sponsored by the Doc Spike Museum W7OS will be held at the Clubhouse on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2015 from approximately 4 p.m. PST until….??
Pizza and sodas will be furnished by the club. Deserts and other goodies are always welcomed. Come have fun and get the feel of the golden olden days.

Kids Day at the Clubhouse on January 3, 2013 from 10 am until 4 pm.

Winter Field Day 2016 will be held the first Saturday of February - the 6th at the Owens Beach Pavilion at Point Defiance Park. This event will combine the annual FYBO (Freeze Your Buns Off) QRP Contest and a hidden transmitter "Bunny Hunt" . This is always a popular event with lots of fun and fellowship. And remember, the colder it is, the higher the score in the FYBO contest. More details next month.

Bob K7MXE and Philip K7PIA enjoying Winter Field Day Festivities

The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark

The Logger's Bark **is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*… and is published by W7DK Press, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.**

Club Officers

President: Gary McAdams WG7X 253-984-0868 email to wg7x @ w7dk.org
Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ email to w7xtz @ w7dk.org
Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM email to kd4vom @ w7dk.org
Treasurer: Vacant. Mike W7XTZ Acting Treasurer w7xtz@w7dk.org

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Ferguson N7OMS email to n7oms @ w7dk.org
Nick Winter K7MO email to k7mo @ w7dk.org
Bruce Hanson WE7P email to we7p @ w7dk.org
Mike Elwell W7GHW email to w7ghw@w7dk.org
Mike Finnie W7MWF email to w7mwf@w7dk.org

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The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org.

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Membership Info: **FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $35 per calendar year. $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.**

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5
North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3

Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website w7dk.org. Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

Upcoming RCT Events

REGULAR EVENTS

Club Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Workshops: Fourth Wednesday of the month at the Clubhouse, 1249 So. Washington St, Tacoma. A variety of training and educational events will be conducted.

Board Meeting: First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .

SPECIAL EVENTS

December 31, 2015	Straight Key Night 4pm
January 3, 2016	Kids Day @ the Clubhouse
February 6, 2016	FYBO & Winter Field Day